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and that the committee be authorized to procure their presentation, when they may consider it most desirable.

That these resolutions be printed in all the Manchester, and in six of the London newspapers.

RICHARD WOOD.

BIRMINGHAM, MARCH, 31, 1812.

At a meeting of the Merchants, Manufacturers, and other Inhabitants of the town of Birmingham, duly convened by the High Bailiff, and unprecedented for numbers and respectibility, held at the Royal Hotel, this 31st day of March, 1812, "To take into consideration the expediency of petitioning the legislature on the subject of the Orders in Council."

THOMAS ATTWOOD, ESQ., High Bailiff, in the Chair.

Resolved, almost unanimously—1st, That it is the highest privilege, and the most important duty of British subjects, to address the Legislature, whenever they perceive that any political measure is subversive of national welfare and security.

Resolved, unanimously—2d, That the industry and ingenuity of British Manufacturers, aided by the spirit of our invaluable constitution, have produced those great mechanical improvements, and called forth that division of labour, which have given to the merchants of this country a pre-eminence in foreign markets, and have greatly contributed to support that naval superiority, which has hitherto constituted her strength and security as a nation.

Resolved, dissentient only two—3d, That not only the Revenue, but the very existence of society in its present state, in this country, depends upon the prosperity of our manufactures and commerce.

Resolved, dissentient only five—4th, That we view with the deepest regret, the present ruinous situation of the manufactures and commerce of the United Kingdom, and are decidedly of opinion, that the Orders in Council, by closing our commercial intercourse with the United States of America, are a principal cause of the evils we deplore.

Resolved, dissentient only two—5th, That we consider the system of Licences as a virtual acknowledgement of the impolicy of the Orders in council, giving relief to our inveterate enemy, affording a just cause of complaint to those whom we desire to consider as our friends, degrading to the character of the British merchant, subversive of morality, and highly injurious to the navy of Great Britain. A system, which at the same time that it affords a partial and dear-bought assistance to the commerce of the metropolis, renders not the smallest relief to the distressed manufacturers of the United Kingdom

Resolved, dissentient only two—6th, That when nearly all the channels of our trade to the Continent of Europe are closed, the commerce of the East possessed by an exclusive monopoly, and our national expenditure unparallelled in the annals of the world, we deem it incumbent upon us to recommend to the consideration of our Legislature, the propriety of revoking those measures, which we conceive to have been originally contrary to the recognized laws of nations, inconsistent with principles of sound policy, and which threaten to involve us in a war with our most valuable commercial connexion, America, a country linked to us by the powerful affinities of common origin, similarity of language, laws, and manners.

Resolved, dissentient only three—7th, That the direct tendency of the Orders in Council is to force America upon her own resources, and to oblige her to become a manufacturing nation much earlier than in the natural course of events would be the case.

Resolved, unanimously—8th, That this town and neighbourhood, containing a most numerous population, and being unquestionably one of the most important manufacturing districts in the British empire, have greatly depended upon a friendly intercourse with the United States of America, and are suffering most severely under the operation of the Orders in Council.

Resolved, dissentient only three—9th, That if this destructive system be persisted in, thousands of our laborious and respectable mechanics, will inevitably be deprived of their present partial and precarious employment, and whilst we deplore their distressed situation, aggravated by the advancing price of every necessary of life, our concern is greatly heightened by the consideration, that the capital of our merchants and manufacturers is rapidly absorbing in stock, constantly depreciating in value, their ability to participate in the increasing burthens of the state proportionably diminishing, and their efforts consequently paralyzed, at a period when all practicable means should be resorted to,

for cementing national union, and supporting with vigour the most momentous contest in which we are engaged.

Resolved, almost unanimously—10th, That an humble address and petition be presented to both Houses of Parliament, imploring them to take such measures for revoking the Orders in Council, as they in their wisdom may think proper.

Resolved, dissentient only six—11th, That the address and petition now read be adopted.

Resolved, dissentient only three—12th, That the Right Honourable the Lord Lieutenant of the County, and the Right Honourable Lord Calthorpe, be requested to present the same to the House of Lords, and Sir Charles Mordaunt, Bart. and Dugdale Stratford Dugdale, Esq., members for this county, to the House of Commons; and that they be also requested to give it every support in their power.

Resolved, unanimously—13th, That the following gentlemen be nominated a committee, for the purpose of taking any measures which they may deem necessary for the attainment of this great object; and that they have power to add to their number, and report proceedings, as occasion may require.

LIST OF THE COMMITTEE.

Walter Wm. Capper	*Joseph Ledsam*
Henry Perkins	*Charles Lloyd*
Timothy Smith	*Tertius Galton*
Thomas Potts	*Thomas Phipson*
Joseph Shore	*John Towers Lawrence*
William Redfern	*Thomas Lakin Hawkes*
Jeremiah Ridout	*Thomas Hadley*
Simon Walker	*Joseph Webster*
John Francis	*Harry Hunt*
Thomas Astbury	*James Pearson*
William Cross	*Samuel Baker*
J. W. Crompton	*John Ryland, jun.*
William Harrold	*Benjamin Cook.*

Resolved, unanimously—14th, That the resolutions now passed, be signed by the Chairman, and published in such papers as the committee may think proper.

THOMAS ATTWOOD, Chairman.

The High Bailiff having retired, and Richard Spooner, Esq. having been called to the Chair,

Resolved, unanimously, on the motion of Mr. Richard Bird, seconded by William Villers, Esq.—15th, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the High Bailiff, for his able and impartial conduct in the Chair.

Resolved, unanimously—16th, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the High Bailiff, for his constant and zealous attention to the interest of the town.

RICHARD SPOONER.

HAMPDEN CLUB.

At a meeting of Friends to Parliamentary Reform, holden at the Thatched-house Tavern, St. James'-street, April 20, 1812,

WALTER FAWKES, Esq. in the chair.

Resolved, That a Society be instituted, which shall have for its object the securing to the people the free election of their Representatives in the Commons House of Parliament.

That such Society be called the Hampden Club, and that the Gentlemen whose names are underwritten be considered as its founders:

E. Blount, Esq.	T. Northmore, Esq.
G. Blount, Esq.	W. Peter, Esq.
J. Brander Esq.	Sir W. Pilkington, Bart.
S. Brooksbank, Esq.	J. H. Powell, Esq.
T. D. Broughton, Esq.	C. Rashleigh, Esq.
Sir F. Burdett, Bart. M.P.	C. Rowlls, Esq.
W. J. Burdett, Esq.	R. W. Sleat, Esq.
Mont. Burgoyne, Esq.	S. T. Southwell, Esq.
F. Canning, Esq.	E. Stackhouse, Esq.
T. J. Clarke, Esq.	Sir J. Throckmorton, Bart.
H. Clifford, Esq.	J. B. Trevannion, Esq.
T. Clifford, Esq.	J. West, Esq.
J. Dalrymple, Esq.	T. Holt White, Esq.
P. Du Cané, Esq.	G. Wilbraham, jun. Esq.
Walter Fawkes, Esq.	C. Wolseley, Esq.
E. J. Glynn, Esq.	M. Wood, Esq. Ald.
Rear Admiral R. Graves	Sir W. Geary, Bart.
S. C. Graves, Esq.	T. Rider, Esq.
J. Grigby, Esq.	T. Papillon, Esq.
J. Grimstone, Esq.	E. B. Clive, Esq.
W. Honywood, Esq. M.P	R. Knight, Esq.
G. Johnstone, Esq.	T. B. Monck, Esq.
T. Jones, Esq.	R. Canning, Esq.
G. Langston, Esq.	C. E. Handford, Esq.
R. Lewis, Esq.	W. Wallace, Esq.
G. Lister, Esq.	Row. Alston, Esq.
H. Lys, Esq.	

Resolved, That by the laws and statutes of this realm, the subject has settled in him a fundamental right of property; and that he is not compelled to contribute to any tax, or other charge not set by common consent in Parliament.